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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/820,761	03/30/2001	Akihiro Furukawa	109133	3856

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EXAMINER

REFAI, RAMSEY

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2152

DATE MAILED: 04/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/820,761	Applicant(s) FURUKAWA ET AL.	
	Examiner Ramsey Refai	Art Unit 2152	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 December 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3 and 7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3 and 7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/27/06</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Supplemental Final Action

Responsive to Applicant Initiated Telephonic Interview conducted April 5, 2006 with Scott Schulte, Applicants' representative in which Examiner agreed to send this supplemental final action.

In the Amendment filed December 05, 2005, claims 1, 4-6, 8, and 9 were canceled. Claims 2, 3, and 7 were amended. Claims 2, 3, and 7 remain pending further examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 2, 3, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 2 recites the limitations "the network" in line 4 and "response packets" in line 13. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 7 recites the limitation "the node" in lines 6, 12, and 13. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 7 is indefinite because it is not clear why the steps of "*displaying a list of at least a portion of network printers connected to a network based on the MAC address in the response packet, determining selection of a network printer from the list by a user; designating the address information to the network printer selected by the user*" are recited in the claims after the steps of sending the setting packet to the node to set the address information. It is not clear what the purpose of displaying a list of network printers and designating address information for a selected printer after the steps of setting an address for a node on the network. It is also not clear if the printer is attached to the previously recited node that is designated the address information and whether the address information that is designated to

the node is the same as the address information that is designated to the selected printer. Clarification is respectfully requested.

In claims 1 and 3, the term “that designates the address information” is indefinite because it is not clear what is meant by this term.

In claim 1, the term “at least a portion of nodes”, “the node”, “the selected node” lack proper antecedent basis.

In claim 1, the terms “at least a portion of nodes”, “the node”, “the selected node” are indefinite because it is not clear whether these terms are referring to the previously recited “nodes of the network”, “corresponding node” or “one of the nodes”.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2, 3, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Roy et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,496,859) in view of Bruck et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,801,949).

5. As per claim 7, Roy et al teach a method comprising:

transmitting a request packet to a particular multicast address, the request packet including a request for an MAC address of each node of a network (column 2, lines 18-50, Figs. 5A-5B);

transmitting, from a node that is a member of the multicast address and that received the request packet, a response packet to the particular multicast address, the response packet including the MAC address of the node (column 2, lines 18-50, Figs. 5A-5B);

receiving the response packet (column 2, lines 18-50, Figs. 5A-5B);

displaying a list of at least a portion of network printers connected to a network based on the MAC address in the response packet; determining selection of a network printer from the list by a user (column 2, lines 22-30).

judging whether the device that received the packet is the intended recipient by judging whether the packet contains the device's destination address is inherent and required when communicating on a network (Figure 1, network).

Roy et al fail to teach transmitting a setting packet including the designated address information and the MAC address indicated in the response packet from the node; receiving the setting packet at the node; designating to set the node that sent the response packet with address information including an IP address; and setting the address information in the setting packet as the address information of the node.

However, Bruck et al teach a GUI setup screen for setting up primary IP addresses for computers on a cluster by manually entering IP addresses into text box for each computer identified in the cluster. The user can view which devices need their IP addresses set, and can then manually set the IP address for each device (column 18, line 30-67, Figure 14). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to combine the teachings for Roy et al and Bruck et al because doing so would create a method of setting IP addresses for newly discovered devices by identifying devices on the network using hardware identification information, displaying those discovered devices on the user interface and then manually assigning IP addresses to those discovered devices.

6. As per claims 2 and 3, these claims contain similar limitations as claim 7 above, therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure are cited in the Notice of Reference Cited form (PTO-892).

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

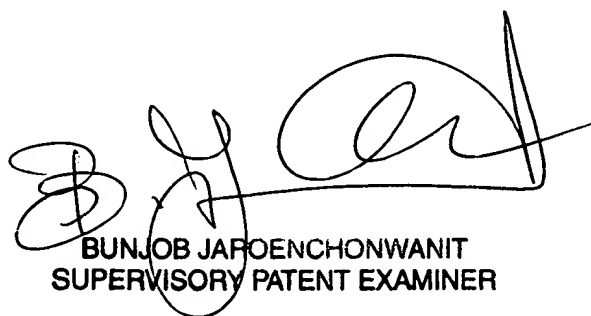
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ramsey Refai whose telephone number is (571) 272-3975. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on (571) 272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ramsey Refai
Examiner
Art Unit 2152



BUNJOB JAPOENCHONWANIT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER